LOVE'S LABOR LOST.

The Beginning and End of the Chicago University.

Base Uses to Which Stephen A. Douglas' Gift to Chicago May Come—The Little Giant and His Weighty Son.

[Special Chicago Correspondence.]

The name and fame of Stephen A. Douglas are closely identified with the growth and development of the State of Illinois and the city of Chicago. The "Little Giant," who, born in 1813 in Vermont, and early apprenticed to the trade of cabinet-making, was compelled to educate himself, always had a loving sympathy with struggling young men; and prompted by this feeling he was easily persuaded to contribute a portion of his possessions toward the foundation of a university in Chicago. How he accumulated his wealth is a matter of history. Ill health compelling him to give up the trade for which his parents had intended him, he studied law in Canandaigua, N. Y., and in 1833 came West, settling at Jacksonville, Ill. His talents were quickly recognized and appreciated by the progressive people of Illinois, who made him Attorney-General before he had reached the age of twenty-two.

In 1840 he was elected Secretary of State, and in 1841 was appointed Judge of the State Supreme Court. Two years later he entered Congress, where he soon became conspicuous for his views on the Oregon boundary question, and his eloquent advocacy of the annexation of Texas. In 1853 he became noted throughout the world as the author of the bill for the organization of the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, which, as is well known, brought about a revolution in the political parties of the United States and played a most important part in bringing the slavery question to a crisis. In 1852 and again in 1856 he was an unsuccessful candidate for the Presidency, two blows from which he never entirely recovered and which probably led to his premature death in 1861.

While at the height of his political glory, and while being in the regular receipt of a large income derived from successful real estate speculations, the statesman was, in 1855, visited by Rev. Dr. J. C. Burroughs, then a prominent Baptist clergyman of Chicago, at his Washington home. The worthy doctor laid his plans for a university in Chicago before Senator Douglas, who at that time owned a large tract of land fronting on Cottage Grove avenue, near Lake Michigan. Dr. Burroughs was anxious to have the institution placed under Baptist control, but to this Douglas objected. Six months later, however, he retreated from his position and gave the land to Dr. Burroughs individually with the understanding that the board of control of the university should be composed of no more than a majority of gentlemen of the Baptist denomination.

SENATOR DOUGLAS.

Dr. Burroughs then raised subscriptions amounting to $225,000, and in 1859 the erection of the grand, but scarcely practical, structure, a picture of which accompanies this article, was begun. Dr. Burroughs, the prime mover in the enterprise, was elected president of the institution, and established as high a standard of study as that pursued in the New England universities.

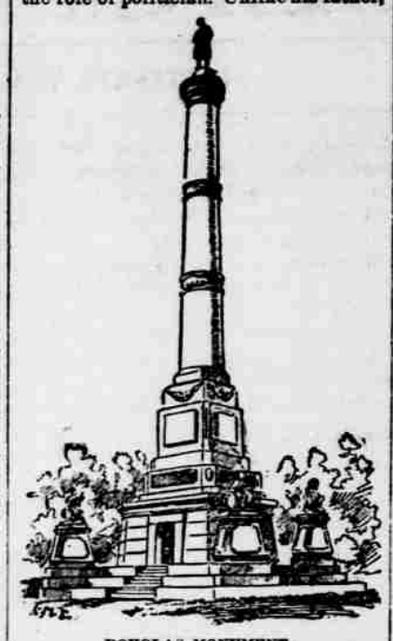
The people, however, suffering from the consequences of the financial depression of '57 and '58, and the civil war were unable to support the college, and, at the close of Dr. Burroughs' administration in 1878, the property was mortgaged to the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company to the amount of three hundred thousand dollars. Dr. Burroughs was succeeded in the presidency by Rev. Lemuel Moss, Hon. Alonzo Abernethy and Rev. Galusha Anderson, but none of them succeeded in lightening the financial load. Finally the university was abandoned, and the property passed into the hands of the Union Life Insurance Company, whose agents are now engaged in tearing down the historical college building.

CHICAGO UNIVERSITY.

Thus, a charitable work, which should have forever perpetuated the memory of Stephen A. Douglas in the hearts of the Western people, was wrecked by the financial vicissitudes of a war which he had so earnestly desired to prevent, and, had it not been for the disinterested efforts of his countless admirers, nothing in the shape of a lasting structure would remain to remind coming generations of one of the greatest of Western statesmen.

Thanks to the efforts of these men, however, a grand monument, which cost, with the ground about it, $97,000, was dedicated in the city of Chicago August 18, 1881, twenty years after it was originally proposed. This monument was designed by Leonard W. Volk, the famous sculptor. Around the main shaft, which is 95 feet 9 inches high, surmounted by a heroic statue of Stephen A. Douglas, gazing over the waters of Lake Michigan, are four allegorical figures, representing Justice, History, Eloquence and Illinois, each on a separate pedestal. In bas relief around the base are groups depicting the advance of civilization. The base is octagonal, 20 feet in diameter. On one side is this inscription: "Stephen A. Douglas. Born April 23, 1813; died June 3, 1861. 'Tell my children to obey the laws and uphold the constitution.'"

Stephen A. Douglas left two sons, Robert and Stephen A., Jr. The latter has since 1879 made Chicago his home, and has, at different times, appeared in the role of politician. Unlike his father,



DOUGLAS MONUMENT.

who was a Democrat to the backbone, young Stephen is a strong Republican. Born November 3, 1850, in the family home of his mother in North Carolina, he received a thorough education at Georgetown College, and subsequently supervised his mother's estate, consisting of several plantations in North Carolina, Mississippi and Texas. In 1870, before he was twenty years old, he was made chairman of a Republican county delegation to the State convention, and subsequently became editor-in-chief of the Raleigh Standard, the organ of the Republican party in North Carolina. In the same year he was appointed Adjutant-General of the State, and in 1872 became a Presidential elector. Four years later the party honored him again in a similar way.

STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, JR.

Arriving at Chicago in 1879 he began the practice of law, and was, the following year, elected in company with the famous Long John Wentworth, a Grant delegate, to the Republican National convention, from which the two men mentioned, together with sixteen other Illinois delegates of the same faction, were expelled. Since that time young Douglas has devoted his political talents to stump-speaking, but has not yet succeeded in securing a reward for his labors. Of personal appearance the namesake of the Little Giant has no reason to be proud, unless he might happen to run across an admirer of short stature and a mass of adipose tissue. Vulgarly speaking, Stephen A. Douglas, Jr., is fat, so fat in fact that his eyes have hard work to peep out into the world. He has, however, a great name and has inherited some of his father's eloquence, so that what nature has denied him is more than balanced by what his ancestry has given him.

The name of Douglas will forever be honored in Chicago, and, for that matter, throughout the West. Still it is to be regretted that the grand gift of a great man to the cause of American education is to be parceled out among real-estate speculators and that where once was a seat of learning may in a few months stand two or three beer saloons and gin-shops. But then the ways of Providence are inscrutable, and kicking against the pricks is a useless occupation.

G. W. WEIPPIERT.

HE SAID "NO."

A Senator Who Has the Courage of His Convictions.

There are few men in public life who have the courage to say "No" when called upon to do improper things. Hence it is worthy of note when a statesman can be found who deliberately and positively refuses to indorse a person or scheme which his judgment indicates should not receive his assistance. A young man from Missouri was in Washington seeking an important consulate. His indorsements were excellent, but he kept adding to them whenever he could do so. One day he called upon Senator Plumb, of Kansas, with whom he was slightly acquainted, and requested his recommendation. The Senator, in brusque, frank, earnest fashion, immediately replied:

"I won't indorse you, but I will defeat you for the appointment if I can do so. I am sent here by the State of Kansas, and it is my duty to represent that State. Hundreds of people from other States have come to me for my recommendation, and I say "No" to all of them. You are from Missouri, and you must depend upon your Missouri friends to help you. There are several Kansas men who want just such a place as that for which you are applying. I shall not jeopardize their chances by indorsing you. On the contrary, I shall do all that I can to help the people of my own State, and if I can defeat you and get a Kansas man appointed to that place you may rest assured that I shall do so."

The young man was astounded, but, being bright, intelligent and experienced in affairs, he appreciated the situation and said:

"You are right, Senator Plumb. You are right. But you are the first man in either branch of Congress who has said 'No' to me, and you have surprised me. I like you, and if you beat me in this matter I shall emigrate from Missouri to Kansas. I want just such a Senator to represent me as you are."

A KENTUCKY MINORITY—Those who are not Majors.

AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

PEPPERMINT.

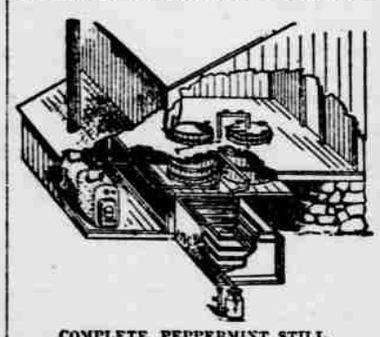
Some Facts About Its Culture—Process of Distillation—Eastern Farmers Find It a Profitable Crop—A Hint to Farmers of Other Sections.

The production of peppermint oil may appear like a small matter, but the people of Wayne County, N. Y., could not easily be made to believe so, says the American Agriculturist. The peppermint industry pours nearly, and sometimes perhaps fully, a million dollars into that single county per year. From Wayne County comes a very large share of the peppermint oil produced in the United States, the balance being produced mostly in Michigan. The oil is used in a limited way for medicinal purposes, much more largely by confectioners for flavoring, and also in printing cotton fabrics. The plant is one of the numerous members of the *Labiatæ* family, genus *Mentha*, and known botanically as *Mentha piperita*. Its culture is by no means complicated or difficult. The chief point is to begin right, especially in the matter of clean culture. Patches of peppermint are often met with in a wild state along the edges of swamps, ponds or streams, and the plant, in such positions, seems to thrive remarkably well. It succeeds, however, on almost any soil, and even yields more oil when grown upland than in low situations. The crop always succeeds best when planted early.

The land selected for the crop should be well drained and in a fair average state of fertility. No manure of any kind is ever applied, as it is thought to cause excessively rank growth and consequent dropping of the leaves. As early in April as possible the land is plowed and harrowed, and furrows marked out twenty inches apart and two to three inches deep. The sets used for planting are pieces of the creeping root stock or underground stem, from one to two feet long, dug in spring from a plantation started the year before. From six to eight square rods of such plantation will furnish roots enough to plant an acre. In planting the grower takes an armful of the roots and drops two or three in a place and so thickly in the furrows that there will be no bare spaces, and covers the sets with his feet as he goes along. One man will plant from one-quarter to one-half acre a day. The plants soon begin to grow, and cultivation and hoeing should not be long delayed. Some of the plants may be a little backward in starting, and the hoe should not be struck into the rows until all the plants are up. The cultivator should run shallow and not be allowed to throw soil on the young plants. Many of the growers use cultivator teeth made for the purpose in the nearest blacksmith's shop. The Planet, Jr., horse-hoe works well, but the Planet, Jr., or Ruhlman's hand-wheel hoe do still better for keeping the narrow rows clean of weeds. The patch has to be kept worked by cultivator and hoe until the plants begin to cover the ground. No more attention is required after this, except to annually mow, cure and distill the mint. Usually but three crops are taken off one plantation, the ground getting too much overrun with grass and weeds to pay for further cropping.

When the peppermint is in blossom, usually in August, it is ready for working up. Some growers mow it with the scythe, especially the first year, while the second and third crops are often cut with a mower, care being taken not to work in it during very hot weather, or to handle it more than necessary, as the oil volatilizes very readily. When cut, it is left on the ground to cure. When the leaves are well wilted, but before they begin to crumble, the crop is put up in small cocks, like hay.

The process of distillation is quite simple and the illustration will make it plain to the reader. In a side room is the boiler, which may be portable or stationary, but capable of giving sixty pounds pressure. The vats or tubs are steam-tight, five or six feet in diameter, and about the same in depth. When filled with the peppermint freshly drawn from the field, the vats are closed with tight-fitting covers. The steam is then turned on at the bottom. It vaporizes the oil, and the mixture of steam and oil escapes through a tin pipe at the top of the tub, to be condensed in



COMPLETE PEPPERMINT STILL.

the "worm." This is a coil of pipes contained in a large vat, kept filled with cold water. The condensed steam, and with it the oil, flows from the lower open end into a "receiver" made of tin. The oil being lighter than the water, always remains on top, while the water flows off through a pipe, near the bottom, bent upright at a right angle and ending in two branches.

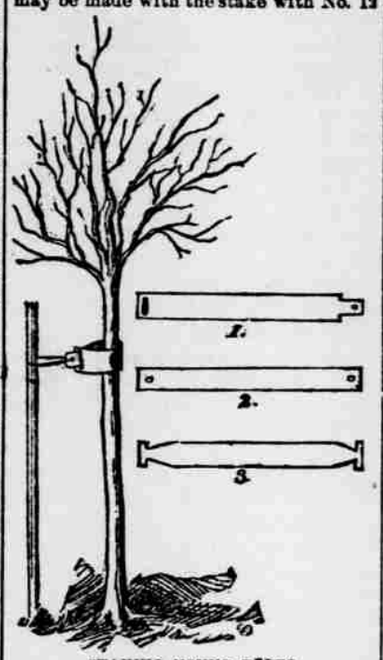
When it is desired to run off the oil the water-discharge pipe is plugged up, and water filled in through the funnel at end of pipe, until the oil rises in the receiver and flows off. The oil is stored in cans. When it is all run off the plug is removed from the drain pipe and the water allowed to pass out. Our illustration shows all the details of the interior arrangement. A still of this kind, with a capacity of producing from seventy to one hundred and fifty pounds of oil in twenty-four hours, can be put up for from $500 to $1,000.

"THE devils got into swine two thousand years ago, and all of them never got out," said a man who had been trying to get a pig into the pen for half an hour. There is a good deal of devil in a hog, and there is some in man. The pig no doubt thinks some men are all devil.

STAKING YOUNG TREES.

An Excellent Device for Protecting Young Orchards.

Young trees set last spring or in the autumn, if in an exposed situation, should be staked up, and if this matter has been neglected it should now receive prompt attention, as the constant moving to and fro by the wind not only causes the tree to grow out of the perpendicular, but strains and often checks the bark, not infrequently girdling the tree where it continually grates against the frozen ground, all of which should be avoided. The general plan of staking is shown in the illustration, and three forms of bands are also exhibited. They are best made from old rubber boots or shoes cut in strips seven inches long and from one to two inches wide; but in the absence of rubber thin leather may be used. In either case connection may be made with the stake with No. 12



STAKING YOUNG TREES.

annealed wire. Of course, the stake should be located upon the windward side of the tree, and when large trees are set two or three stakes should be used. In all cases the band should be large enough to contain two years' growth of the trees without pressing, and unless in a very exposed situation in two years from setting a tree should be so firmly established as to dispense with further support.—Rural New Yorker.

SWINE TALK.

Hints as to the Care and Treatment of Brood Sows.

The brood sows should be kept in fine, thrifty condition. By this I do not mean fat enough for market, but so they look well. Old sows that have reached maturity, if of any of the improved breeds, need but little feed to keep them in prime condition, except when suckling pigs or for a short time after rearing their young, in order to gain the flesh they have lost by the drain the pigs have made on them. Young sows should be fed about all they will eat, of a variety of food, such as oats, corn, middlings and milk, with the run of a grass lot. Oil meal is very good, in proper quantity. Keep them growing so that they may be large and well developed before having their first litter of pigs. They should be eight months old before being bred; they will then be one year old at farrowing time, and if properly taken care of will have no trouble in being delivered of their young.

Often farmers have trouble with young sows at time of giving birth, simply because they are coupled too young, or have not had sufficient feed to develop growth. Many a young sow has died at farrowing, either through the carelessness or ignorance of the owner, by being bred too small and young. I have been called in to give assistance at such times when it was impossible to render any, except with an instrument made especially for the purpose.

After the sow has been coupled she should be turned by herself in a close pen, where she will keep quiet until the heat has passed off. Watch her from eighteen to twenty-two days after coupling, as that is the time they generally come in if not safe in pig, although I have known instances where a sow would come in in fourteen days, and have known them again to go twenty-nine days, but these are only rare cases. When safe in pig feed on good wholesome food, with a clean warm place to sleep, and above all allow them plenty of exercise whenever the weather will permit. I can not impress this word exercise too strongly, as upon it depends to a great extent the crop of pigs. A sow that has been allowed the exercise she should have will be delivered of her young much easier, and her pigs will be more fully developed, will come stronger, grow better and make better pigs than a sow that has been confined in a close pen and fed principally on corn. The sow that has been confined will give birth to more runty pigs than the one that has had exercise.—J. L. Van Doren, in Ohio Farmer.

Working Barren Land.

A correspondent of the Rural New Yorker earnestly advises any young man who has a few hundred dollars to invest in a small farm not to purchase poor or half barren land with the hope of bringing it up to fertility, but to buy elsewhere. This advice accords with the practice of some good farmers whom we have known, one of whom had a farm of his own in a portion of the State known for its sterility. He did not undertake to work that farm, knowing that it would not produce enough, but let it to others. Not being rich enough to buy another farm, he then rented one in a fertile portion of Western New York, where his share from the land was greater than the whole product of the poor farm, and he did well by the operation. It often happens that the same amount of labor must be performed on both; and it requires no more labor in plowing, cultivating and other work on the best land than on that which gives only twenty bushels of corn to the acre.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

An English Historian's Estimate of His Mind and Character.

When only twenty-three, Washington had been appointed commander of the Virginian forces against the French; and in the late war, though he had met with one serious disaster, and had no opportunity of obtaining any very brilliant military reputation, he had always shown himself an eminently brave and skillful soldier. His great modesty and taciturnity kept him in the background, both in the provincial Legislature and in the Continental Congress; but though his voice was scarcely ever heard in debate, his superiority was soon felt in the practical work of the committees. "If you speak of solid information or sound judgment," said Patrick Henry about this time, "Colonel Washington is unquestionably the greatest man in Congress." He appeared in assembly in uniform, and in military matters his voice had an almost decisive weight. Several circumstances distinguished him from other officers who in military service might have been his rivals. He was of an old American family. He was a planter of wealth and social position, and being a Virginian his appointment was a great step toward enlisting that important colony cordially in the cause. The capital question now pending in America was how far the other colonies would support New England in the struggle.

In the preceding March, Patrick Henry had carried a resolution for embodying and reorganizing the Virginia militia, and had openly proclaimed that an appeal to arms was inevitable; but as yet New England had borne almost the whole burden. The army at Cambridge was a New England army, and General Ward, who commanded it had been appointed by Massachusetts. Even if Ward was superseceded, there were many New England competitors for the post of commander; the army naturally desired a chief of their own province, and there were divisions and hostilities among the New England deputies. The great personal merit of Washington, and the great political importance of securing Virginia determined the issue, and the New England deputies ultimately took a leading part in the appointment. The second place was given to General Ward, and the third to Charles Lee, an English soldier of fortune who had lately purchased land in Virginia and embraced the American cause with great passion. Lee had probably a wider military experience than any other officer in America, but he was a man of no settled principles, and his great talents were marred by a very irritable and capricious temper.

To the appointment of Washington far more than any other single circumstance is due the ultimate success of the American revolution, though in purely intellectual powers Washington was certainly inferior to Franklin, and, perhaps, to two or three other of his colleagues. There is a theory which once received the countenance of some considerable physiologists, though it is now, I believe, completely discarded, that one of the great lines of division among men may be traced to the comparative development of the cerebrum and cerebellum. To the first organ, it was supposed, belonged those special gifts or powers which make men poets, orators, thinkers, artists, conquerors or wits. To the second belong the superintending, restraining, discerning and directing faculties, which enable men to employ their several talents with sanity and wisdom, which maintain the balance and proportion of intellect and character, and make sound judgments and well-regulated lives.

The theory, however, untrue in its physiological aspect, corresponds to a real distinction in human minds and characters, and it was especially in the second order of faculties that Washington excelled. His conversation had no brilliancy or wit. He was entirely without the gift of eloquence, and he had very few accomplishments. He knew no language but his own, and, except for a rather strong turn for mathematics, he had no taste which can be called purely intellectual. There was nothing in him of the meteor or the cataract, nothing that either dazzled or overpowered. A courteous and hospitable country gentleman, a skillful farmer, a very keen sportsman, he probably differed little in tastes and habits from the better members of the class to which he belonged; and it was in a great degree in the administration of a large estate and in assiduous attention to country and provincial business that he acquired his rare skill in reading and managing men.—Lecky's History of England.

Viciousness of Elephants.

Not long ago I met George Arstingstall, one of the greatest animal tamers ever known. In speaking of the recent escapades of elephants in this country and abroad he said: "People are painfully ignorant about these brutes and imagine them docile, affectionate, kind, generous, brave and grateful, when they are almost the very opposite. They form rough attachments to each other, to dogs, and sometimes to horses, but to human beings never. They are cowardly, cruel, selfish and thankless. The females are better than the males. The latter invariably grow moody, morose and murderous as they age, and finally have to be shot. The she elephants become cruel, clumsy and unintelligent, but seldom dangerous. Neither male nor female deserves the effection in which they are held by the public."—N. Y. Star.

—The Princess of Wales wore the first jersey ever seen on a lady in England. She wore it at Sandqwn in 1879. A little tailor of no particular account was first struck with the capabilities of the garment, and sold the idea to the tailor of the princess, and the style was reserved for her for a month. Paris took up the fashion after a season or two, and in the winter of 1880 all the leading houses imported jerseys, and very gradually learned how to fit them.

—Raw Jack rabbit and goat meat formed the food of a number of people who were caught in a snow blockade between Emery Gap and Folsom, N. M.

ABOUT WOMAN'S DRESS.

Modjeska's Mantle—Artistic Gowns—Japanese Flowers.

There is a difference of the stage wardrobes of to-day and those of even twenty years ago. Paper muslin served for gowns then and white canton flannel spotted with ink made the ermine mantles. The mantle that Madame Modjeska wore as Lady Macbeth was not of this sort. It cost $400 for the embroidery alone.

Japanese tea gowns are popular with certain women. I would not advise those who weigh over a hundred and sixty pounds to wear them, however.

A pretty girl from Philadelphia wore one of the most successful toilets seen at the Patriarchs' ball, white tissue beautifully worked with sheaves of corn in gold over a Greek toilet of "English rose" crepe de chine, a pale, beautiful tint seen for the first time in the ball gowns of this winter.

It is as impossible to keep pace with the new gowns as with their wearers. Some of the richest gowns which have yet appeared are for dinner dances, and are of magnificent brocaded satins on pale cream grounds, with damask buds, violet sprays, silver roses of natural size, orchid blossoms and hawthorn flowers displayed upon them, made up as short dresses with round skirts, half high round bodices and short sleeves open down the top to show the arms.

I wonder that the fashionable world has not discovered that Japanese artificial flowers are much more beautiful than French artificial flowers. The former are the only flowers not real that any one of taste could tolerate in vases for decorative purposes, or for the toilet.

Waistcoats for women are again the fashion. Whether one likes them or not, their convenience in the way of pockets must be admitted by all.

The white petticoat must go except for special occasions. It is not the inexpensive and old-fashioned "balmoral" that has taken its place, but the very expensive watered silk and satin skirt, which may be worth a fortune in lace, if one can afford it, and often is where one can not afford it.—N. Y. Commercial-Advertiser.

THE LITTLE SHROUD.

Why Mother's Darling Could Not Sleep in His Grave.

There was once a woman who had a little son about seven years old, who was so lovely and beautiful that no one could look upon him without being kind to him, and he was dearer to her than all the world beside. It happened that he suddenly fell ill and died, and his mother would not be comforted, but wept for him day and night. Shortly after he was buried he showed himself at night in the place where he had been used in his lifetime to sit and play, and when his mother wept he wept also, and when the morning came he departed. Since his mother never ceased weeping, the child came one night in the little white shroud in which he had lain in his coffin, and with the chaplet upon his head, and seating himself at her feet upon the bed, he cried:

"Oh, mother, mother, give over crying or else I can not stop in my coffin, for my shroud is never dry because of your tears, for they fall upon it."

When the mother heard this she was sore afraid and wept no more. And the babe came upon another night, holding in his hand a little taper, and he said:

"Look, mother, my shroud is now quite dry and I can rest in my grave."

Then she bowed to the will of Providence and bore her sorrow with silence and patience, and the little child returned not again, but slept in his underground bed.—German Folk Lore.

Don't Become a Scold.

Mothers, don't scold. You can be firm without scolding your children; you can reprove them for their faults; you can punish them when necessary, but don't get into the habit of perpetually scolding them. It does them no good. They soon become so accustomed to fault-finding and scolding that they pay no attention to it. Or, which often happens, they grow hardened and reckless in consequence of it. Many a naturally good disposition is ruined by constant scolding, and many a child is driven to seek evil associates because there is no peace at home. Mothers, with their many cares and perplexities, often fall into the habit unconsciously; but it is a sad habit for them and their children. Watch yourselves, and don't indulge in this unfortunate and often unintentional manner of addressing your children. Watch even the tones of your voice, and, above all, watch your hearts; for we have divine authority for saying that "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."—Farm and Fireside.

Picturesque Women.

There are women who look picturesque in almost any kind of dress. They have invariably well-shaped heads and graceful outlines, flat shoulders and a pretty line of arm and shoulder. They seldom have very small waists, but possess very beautiful hair in great quantities. Their eyes need not be very large, but they must be well set—"put in with dainty fingers," as such setting has been described; and, though the complexion need not be perfect, it must be natural, and the nose unaccustomed to the powder-puff. Such women look poetic, and inspire the poet, the painter and the sculptor.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

—Even the much despised tramp has often more honor than he's given credit for, as witness the following from New Jersey. "Fourteen years ago a tramp knocked at the door of Daniel Palmer, in South Orange Township, Essex County, and asked for a hat. By mistake one of the daughters gave him her father's best silk hat, discovering the mistake just as the tramp started away with it. An exclamation by her sister apprised the tramp of the prize he had received. Little thought was afterward given to the matter until a few mornings ago, when a clean, new hat box was found on the front porch. It contained a new silk hat, and this explanation within a slip of paper: "To replace your father's best silk hat, taken by me fourteen years ago."